

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	:	10/660,834	Confirmation No.:	7859
Applicant	:	John W. Carter et al.		
Filed	:	September 12, 2003		
TC/A.U.	:	2873		
Examiner	:	Brandi N. Thomas		
Docket No.	:	GEN10 P-444		
Customer No.	:	028,469		

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY OF OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request the withdrawal of the finality of the last Office Action insofar as the last Office Action introduced new grounds of rejection that were not necessitated by amendment of the claims.

In particular, it is noted that in the Office Action dated November 15, 2005, the Examiner had rejected claims 16-33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,276,821 issued to Pastrick et al. In response to the Office Action, claims 16-33 were not amended. To this day, claims 16-33 remain in their original form. However, the Examiner has now in the final Office Action rejected claims 16-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pastrick et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,079,858 issued to Hicks, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,290,188 issued to Bassett. Clearly, this new ground of rejection as to claims 16-33 was not necessitated by any amendment made by the applicants since those claims were not amended at all. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the finality of the Office Action and the issuance of a new non-final Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

PRICE, HENEVELD, COOPER,
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May 25, 2006

Date

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